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Message Text

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21
ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 L-02 IO-10 INT-05 COA-01 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00 CEQ-01

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6944

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, TBIO, JA
SUBJECT: CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

REF: (A) STATE A-8894, (B) TOKYO 1434 (2/1/74)

SUMMARY: BUREAUCRATIC INERTIA IS LIKELY TO DELAY GOJ RATIFICATION OF CONVENTION UNTIL 1976. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBOFF CALLED AT FONOFF ON DECEMBER 19 TO DETERMINE STATUS OF JAPANESE CONSIDERATION OF SUBJECT CONVENTION AND PROSPECTS FOR PASSAGE. FONOFF HAD NOT HEARD OF SWEDEN'S RATIFICATION AND EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR COPY OF DEPARTMENT'S ENCLOSURE GIVING CURRENT INFORMATION ON CONVENTION'S STATUS. FONOFF REPEATED ITS BASICALLY POSITVE ATTITUDE TOWARD CONVENTION REPORTED IN REFTEL(B) AND STATED IT NOW PREPARING FOR DIET RATIFICATION. THIS PROCESS INVOLVES COORDINATION AMONG FOUR OTHER AGENCIES: 3 ENVIRONMENT AGENCY, MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES AGENCY.

2. SUBSTANCE OF COORDINATION NEEDED IS TO RVISE CURRENT GOJ REGULATIONS TO BRING THEM INTO ACCORD WITH PROVISIONS OF CONVENTION. IN ADDITION, FONOFF MENTIONED DIFFICULTY OF FINDING NAMES IN JAPANESE FOR ALL ANIMALS LISTED IN
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CONVENTION'S APPENDICES, AS MANY OF THEM DO NOT LIVE IN JAPAN.

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3. FONOFF MENTIONED THAT, FRANKLY, THERE IS LITTLE
POLITICAL BENEFIT FOR DIET MEMBERS IN THEIR RATIFYING SUCH
TREATIES. EMBASSY COMMENT: IN VIEW OF BUREAUCRATIC INERTIA
EVIDENT IN ABOVE STATEMENTS, EMBASSY IS NOT HOPEFUL THAT DIET
WILL RATIFYCONVENTION EVEN IN REGULAR 150-DAY DIET SESSION
DUE TO START IN JANUARY 1975. REGULAR 1976 SESSION WOULD
APPEAR TO BE MORE LIKELY PERIOD FOR DIET RATIFICATION. END
COMMENT.
HODGSON

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